

REMARKS

Applicants were requested to elect one of 12 designated groups for the purpose of restriction.

Applicants elect Group I (claims 21-32 and 34-40) drawn to, *inter alia*, a genus of modified proteases wherein the catalytic domain that is at least 70% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:43, a catalytic domain that is encoded by each of SEQ ID NOS: 1, 2, 31, is modified by a carboxyl-terminal extension of from one to at least eight of the 15 non-polar, or uncharged amino acids.

Applicants hereby reserve the right to file continuing-type applications directed to the non-elected subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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